and L-isoleucine from said altered *Corynebacterium glutamicum* cell having a disrupted pgi gene are from about 1% to about 25% greater than yields from a *Corynebacterium glutamicum* cell having a non-disrupted pgi gene.

Please substitute the following claim 7 for the pending claim 7:

7. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said disrupted *pgi* gene is a mutant phosphoglucose isomerase gene.

Please substitute the following claim 8 for the pending claim 8:

8. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said altered *Corynebacterium glutamicum* cell having a disrupted *pgi* gene is produced by

(a) subcloning an internal region of a *pgi* gene into a vector; and

(b) inserting said resulting vector from step (a) into a *Corynebacterium glutamicum* genome via homologous recombination.

Please substitute the following claim 18 for the pending claim 18:

18. (Twice Amended) A method of producing L-amino acids selected from the group consisting of L-lysine, L-threonine and L-isoleucine, comprising:

culturing an altered *Corynebacterium glutamicum* cell having a decreased amount of 6-phosphoglucose isomerase enzymatic activity as compared to an unaltered *Corynebacterium glutamicum* cell wherein said L-amino acid yields from said altered *Corynebacterium glutamicum* cell are from about 1% to about 25% greater than yields from an unaltered *Corynebacterium glutamicum* cell.

Please substitute the following claim 20 for the pending claim 20:

20. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said disrupted *pgi* gene is a mutant *pgi* gene.

Please substitute the following claim 21 for the pending claim 21:

21. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said altered *Corynebacterium glutamicum* cell having a disrupted *pgi* gene is produced by

(a) subcloning an internal region of a *pgi* gene into a vector; and

(b) inserting said resulting vector from step (a) into a *Corynebacterium glutamicum* genome via homologous recombination.